

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DPW-01 OIC-02 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

EUR-12 NEA-09 ACDA-05 NIC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SCS-03 SCA-01 (ISO)W
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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2158

FOR L-ALDRICH AND D/PW-SIEVERT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, PFOR

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW-
MISSING AND DEAD, MEDICAL AIRCRAFT

REFERENCE: GENEVA 1382

1. (U) DRAFTING COMMITTEE OF COMMITTEE TWO HAS NOW COMPLETED ALL WORK ON GENERAL PROTECTION OF WOUNDED, SICK AND SHIP-WRECKED IN PROTOCOL ONE AND TWO. CHAIRMAN NAHLIK INFORMED DELOFF THAT CONSIDERATION OF DRAFTING COMMITTEE REPORT ON PROTOCOL II AND MINOR REVISION OF ARTICLES 15 AND 18 WILL BE ON AGENDA FOR NEXT MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING ON AFTERNOON, 2 APRIL. HE WILL DECIDE ON 2 APRIL WHETHER TO TAKE UP REVISED REPORT OF WORKING GROUP ON MISSING AND DEAD WITH SOVIET RESERVATIONS OR PROCEED WITH GENERAL DEBATE ON MEDICAL AIRCRAFT, FOLLOWED BY REFERRAL OF MEDICAL AIRCRAFT TO DRAFTING COMMITTEE.

2. (C) SOVIET DELEGATE HAS MADE SEVERAL STATEMENTS TO EFFECT THAT HE CONSIDERS MEDICAL AIRCRAFT PROVISIONS
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IN US AND WESTERN GROUP DRAFT AS MOST IMPORTANT ITEM ON

COMMITTEE TWO AGENDA. SO FAR NO SERIOUS OPPOSITION TO OUR MEDICAL AIRCRAFT PROPOSAL HAS SURFACED. IN ADDITION TO ORIGINAL CO-SPONSORS: BELGIUM, CANADA, AND UK, WE HAVE PICKED UP FRANCE, NETHERLANDS AND NORWAY. SWEDEN HAS INDICATED THAT, SUBJECT TO MINOR AMENDMENTS, IT WILL SUPPORT OUR PROPOSAL. AUSTRALIA WILL SUPPORT WITHOUT AMENDMENTS. REPUBLIC OF KOREA, WHICH HAS ITS OWN PROPOSAL, WILL WITHDRAW AND SUPPORT OURS. ACCORDINGLY, DELEGATION WILL URGE THAT MEDICAL AIRCRAFT BE CONSIDERED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN EXPECTATION THAT GENERAL DEBATE WILL BE SHORT FOLLOWED BY CONSENSUS ADOPTION IN PRINCIPLE AND REFERENCE TO DRAFTING COMMITTEE.

3. (C) CONSEQUENCE WILL BE THAT NO SECTION ON MISSING AND DEAD MAY BE ADOPTED AT THIS SESSION. SOVIET DELEGATE TOLD DELOFF PRIVATELY THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER HIS GOVT WOULD HAVE ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS ON WORKING GROUP DRAFT BY END OF EASTER RECESS. HE BELIEVES THAT HIS GOVT WILL SUPPORT OBLIGATORY ACCESS TO GRAVES BY REPRESENTATIVES OF OFFICIAL GRAVES REGISTRATION SERVICES OF HOME COUNTRY IN PARA 8A REF, BUT WILL NOT ACCEPT MORE THAN AN "ENDEAVOUR TO AGREE" CLAUSE WITH RESPECT TO ACCESS BY RELATIVES OF DECEASED.

4. (U) FRG REPRESENTATIVE BELIEVES THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN CSCE MAY INFLUENCE ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF ACCESS TO GRAVES ISSUE AND WOULD NOT BE TOO UNHAPPY TO POSTPONE CONSIDERATION UNTIL 3RD SESSION OF DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE.DALE

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